SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I want to draw the attention of the central Government to the two dozen districts of Bihar which are affected by devastating floods resulting in destruction of standing crops on lakhs or acres of land and damage to property with crore of rupees. The homes of the flood affected districts in Bihar are : Sitamarhi, Shivhar, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Supear, Kirhengang, Saharsa, Purnea, Kathar, Khagaria, Agaria, Madhepura and Danapur area of Patna. About four dozen persons have lost their lives in these floods. Last year the Bihar Government have ashed for a grant of Rs.1102 crores to carry out relief operations but the Centre sanctioned only Rs.21 crores last year and even that amount has not been made available to the Bihar Government. This year also the Government made an assessment of the damage and destruction caused by the floods and asked the centre to sanction Rs.51 crores to carry out relief operations. But not a single paise has been made available to the State Government. In the absence of any help from the centre for relief work, last year as well as this year the situation has deteriorated considerably; all the culverts and bridges are damaged and it is not possible to reach the people to give them succour and help.

The Agriculture Minister has made on the sport inspection but no action has been taken so far. The state Government had written to the centre that floods are a recurring feature in Bihar, and the relief grant should always be made available in advance. But no action is being taken.

I would request the Central Government to release the last year's grant immediately and maximum possible funds should be sanctioned to Bihar this year also so that Bihar Government may carry out relief measures in the flood affected districts of Bihar. Besides, the compensation announced by the Centre to the next of kin of those killed in floods should also be provided immediately in order to provide relief and succour to the poor...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can speak only on the subject; otherwise Shri Nawal Kishore Rai will speak now.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : I want to raise in the House the serious issue of floods in Bihar. I had raised this issue sometime back also and in response thereto, the Agriculture Minister had made an aerial survey of the flood affected areas in Bihar and had announced an ex gratia payment of Rs.500 per acre to the farmers of the flood affected areas. The time is rolling by with no help in sight from the Centre on the contrary, the centre is asking the Bihar Government to oversee the relief measures properly.

Last year also Bihar suffered from devastating floods. A memorandum was submitted on behalf of the Bihar Government to the Committee on National calamity fund. Some officials of the union government had visited a Bihar and made an assessment of the damage caused by the floods the amount of Rs. 21 crores sanctioned last year for carrying out road repairs and to provide relief to the people is still pending with the Finance Ministry. The Finance Minister is present in the House and I would request him though you Sir, to release the amount of Rs.2 crores sanctioned last year. If our request is conceded, it would help as to provide relief to the people who suffered loss last year. The compensation of Rs.500 per acre announced this year should also be paid immediately to provide relief and succour to the people...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen. We can sit for 10 minutes more beyond 1 P.M. But you must be brief so that maximum number of persons can be covered. If 10 Members speak on the same subject, others are deprived of adequate time to speak.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I demand a compensation of Rs. 2 lakhs to the dependents of the dead....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The submissions of only those members will go on record who have been permitted by me to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You utilise your time. I am prepared to extend the sitting by 10-15 minutes.

[English]

Nothing else will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to a very serious issue. Yesterday, the Prime Minister had made a statement about Delhi in which he revealed that 17 gangs are operating in Delhi indulging in murders, kidnapings and rape. The Union Home Ministry is responsible for maintenance of law and order in Delhi. In view of the fact that the Prime Minister has revealed that 17 gangs are operating in Delhi, I would like to know since when these gangs are operating, the details of the crimes committed by them and what action has been taken by the Home Ministry against them? I would also like to know whether some powers are backing them?

* Not recorded

Secondly, the Prime Minister has made the situation were compounded. Already the police in under the union Home Ministry and now there would be a task force under the Prime Minister and how will the coordination between the Prime Minister and Home Ministry be effected? My submission is that in the first instance Government should decide who would oversee the law and order in Delhi - P.M. or the Home Minister? My submission is that the entire record of the activities of these gangs should be laid on the Table.

SHRI RAMSHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention to the red tapism in the Railways I want to cite the example of red tapism practiced by chief Personnel officer, Calcutta. The Railway Recruitment Board had selected 72 clerks in Eastern Railway in 1992 *vide* Employment Notice No. RRB/Patna/12/90-91. Out of these 72 clerks, 55 belonged to the non-reserved category and 17 to the reserved category and no appointment has been made against this list till date. But the Chief Personnel officer of Calcutta selected and appointed 100 clerks on his own.

As per the rules, only the candidates selected by the Board can be appointed. When the matter was referred to the Railways Board, the Personnel Advisor of the Railway Board, Shri Vishwanath, recorded his comment - why this irregularity has been committed? The result was that only 7 candidates were appointed and 65 candidates are still awaiting appointment. All the Candidates belong to poor families and their fate is hanging in balance since 1992.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Railway Minister had said sometime back that red tapism would be done away with in the Railways. In view of the observation of the Railway Minister, I would request him to appoint these 65 candidates without any further delay...*(Interruptions*)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mamataji, I am sorry. This will not go on record. Now you may say whatever you like to say.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, every issue is important. Now, I want to raise an important issue. Bangladesh is celebrating its 25th Independence Day Ceremony. In their Liberation Movement, the people of Bangladesh had got moral support and inspiration from the people of India. To further strengthen the Indo-Bangladesh relationship and as a good gesture, I would request the Government to prepare a Plan of Action so that Indo-Bangladesh relationship can build up. For your information, in Calcutta, the Eastern Command has built up a Memento to pay homage to the Bangladesh Army and India Army. This year, India should take initatives so that they will pay homage to the Bangladesh army and the Indian army. This can also be done through cultural, sports programmes and educational exchange and thus, we can exchange our cooperation with our neighbouring countries.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a very serious issue. But it is also true that all the efforts to draw the attention of the Government are futile.

There is a medical college by the name Mata Gujari in Kishanganj, Bihar. About 240 students of the college are appearing in the examinations. Some local goondas asked the students to pay them protection money of Rs.5 lakhs otherwise they will be prevented from taking the examinations. The students resisted their demands. They were beaten up and thrown out of the college. They also kidnapped Shri Kartar Singh, Trustee, Shri Rastogi, and an administration, Shri Dileep Singh and threatened to close down the college.

Sir, this college was affiliated with Madhepura university in 1994 and the Indian medical council had also given it's approval thereto. The Bihar Government recognised the college after the Supreme Court ordered it. The foundation stone of the college was laid by Giani Zail Singh.

Sir, the college is named after a lady whose supreme sacrifice is unprecedented in the history of India. The husband, sons and grandsons of mata Gujari laid down their lives for the sake of the country. Barring Haryana and Punjab, this is the only medical college belonging to the sikh community in the country. Now we are being threatened that this college would be closed down. The students of the college would be closed down. The students of the college ore being prevented from appearing in the examination. The details of the incident have appeared in the Press also but no action has been taken on behalf of the Government on top of it a case has been registered against Sardar Kartar Singh. All our pleas go unheeded whether they relate to 984 unclaimed dead bodies or any other issue. We want the scope of C.B.I. inquiry should be widened and a Supreme Court judge should be appointed to probe the case of these unclaimed dead bodies. We must have a feeling that we are also the free citizens of this country.

I would like to bring it to your notice that students belonging to all the communities study in that college including 180 students from J&K...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : We had requested the Home Minister to make a statement, on the subject but it is more than one week and no statement has been made by him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue should not be put off in this manner.

* Not recorded